

Open Seats Definition

A regional cooperative agreement which allows all Beaver County students (from grades 7-12) to participate in certain defined courses or programs offered in other districts, as well as courses or programs that may be offered by participating districts at a central location. Fifteen, locally controlled, small school districts, containing 29 schools, will be able to send and receive students, producing a wide range of choices for parents and students. Students from low performing schools and low performing students from all schools may physically take a course, several courses, or enroll for an entire year at a high performing school depending upon their educational needs. This option would: 1) provide equal opportunities for all students to be offered courses with rigor and relevance that would otherwise not be available 2) allow courses to run that would normally be cancelled due to low enrollment 3) allow students from low performing schools to attend rigorous courses in higher performing schools, yet participate in athletics and other extracurricular activities in their home district.

It is feasible that a student may determine a particular area of interest and be able to attend a high performing school that specializes in that area, such as communications, or engineering. As a part of this initiative, we will plan a magnet school concept with geographic clustering of districts whereby one district may possess or will develop an outstanding science program; another may excel with mathematics, etc.